

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-08

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FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3942

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUCHAREST 4566

LIMDIS

EUR/EE FOR SILINS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EEWT, CVIS, CSCE, RO
SUBJ: CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS ON EMIGRATION/MFN: DECEMBER 1976
REPRESENTATION LIST, MARRIAGE CASES, AND HARASSMENT OF EMIGRANTS
REF: STATE 140393

1. WE HAVE FOLLOWING RESPONSES AND COMMENTS REGARDING DECEMBER
1976 REPRESENTATION LISTS, MARRIAGE CASES, AND HARASSMENT OF
INTENDING IMMIGRANTS (PARAS 4, 5, AND 6 OF REFTTEL).

2. DECEMBER 1976 REPRESENTATION LIST
AS OF JUNE 15 EMBASSY HAD BEEN INFORMED EITHER BY MFA OR
APPLICANTS THAT 312 PERSONS ON 12/76 REPLIST HAVE RECEIVED
APPROVAL. APPROVALS BY CATEGORY INCLUDE: DUAL NATIONALS
-- 89 PERSONS (19 PERCENT), QUALIFIED IMMIGRANTS - 192 PERSONS
(45 PERCENT), NON-PREFERENCE - 31 PERSONS (57 PERCENT). PATTERN
PERSISTS OF RELATIVELY LOW SUCCESS RATE WITH DUAL NATIONALS AND
COMPARATIVELY GREATER APPROVAL RATE OF NON-PREFERENCE CASES
(MAJORITY OF WHOM ARE SPOUSES AND MINOR CHILDREN OF PERSONS
RESIDENT IN U.S.) WITH QUALIFIED IMMIGRANTS FALLING IN
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BETWEEN. COMPARED WITH ROMANIAN PERFORMANCE ON JULY 1976
REPLIST AT COMPARABLE STAGE, EXPERIENCE WITH DECEMBER 1976
REPLIST REPRESENTS DECIDED IMPROVEMENT.

3. MARRIAGE CASES
ALTHOUGH REFUSAL OF SEVERAL, MORE ACTIVE CASES OVER PAST
FEW MONTHS HAS BEEN TROUBLING, WE WOULD NOT TERN OVERALL

PERFORMANCE "DISAPPOINTING." OF 57 MARRIAGE CASES ON 12/76 REPLIST, 27 (OR 47 PERCENT) HAVE BEEN APPROVED AFTER AVERAGE WAIT OF TEN MONTHS. APPROVAL RATE IS WELL AHEAD OF WHAT ACHIEVED ON 7/76 REPLIST AT SAME STAGE AND THEREFORE GIVES US REASON TO EXPECT THAT ROMANIANS WILL REACH 65-70 PERCENT LEVEL OF PAST SEVERAL YEARS.

4. CONSOFF WHO HAS LONGEST TENURE (22 MONTHS) DOES NOT FIND THAT INTENDING EMIGRANTS ARE PRESENTLY SUFFERING MORE HARASSMENT THAN WAS THE CASE DURING 1975XUY PERIOD. ISRAELI AMBASSADOR SHARES THIS ASSESSMENT. EACH CASE RECEIVES INDIVIDUALIZED AND OFTEN CAPRICIOUS TREATMENT AT GOR HANDS, AND IT NEXT TO IMPOSSIBLE TO SAY WHO WILL BE HARASSED (AND HOW) AND WHO WILL NOT BE. WE FEEL THAT PUBLIC CRITICISM AT THIS TIME WOULD REPRESENT ESCALATION OF TACTICS ON OUR PART WHICH IS NOT JUSTIFIED IN TERMS OF PRESENT BEHAVIOR. INSTEAD WE RECOMMEND THAT WE CONTINUE TO URGE GOR PRIVATELY, AS WE HAVE ON NUMEROUS OCCASIONS TO SIMPLIFY ITS REGULATIONS AND PROCEDURES. (FOR DEPARTMENT'S RECORDS, WE NOTE THAT PRE-APPLICATION PROCEDURE WAS INSTITUTED IN LATE 1975, NOT LAST YEAR).

BARNES

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